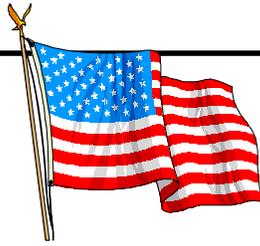




# Shift Colors



The Newsletter for Navy Retirees

Volume 47 Issue # 3

Navy Personnel Command

July - September 2002

## CNO says Midway vets 'set the standard'

By JOC Walter T. Ham IV, CNO Public Affairs

By winning the Battle of Midway and turning the tide of the war in the Pacific, Midway veterans set the standard that Sailors and Marines are upholding today in the war on terrorism, according to Chief of Naval

Operations Adm. Vern Clark.

"In the aftermath of December the 7th, 1941, it looked gloomy," the CNO told Midway veterans at San Francisco's Marine's Memorial Club. "We're used to winning. We weren't winning. We weren't winning until the Battle of Midway."

The CNO said he has a deeper understanding of how the attack on Pearl Harbor felt because of 9/11.

"It's a day I'm never going to forget," Clark said. "They hit my command center. I lost 42 people on my staff.

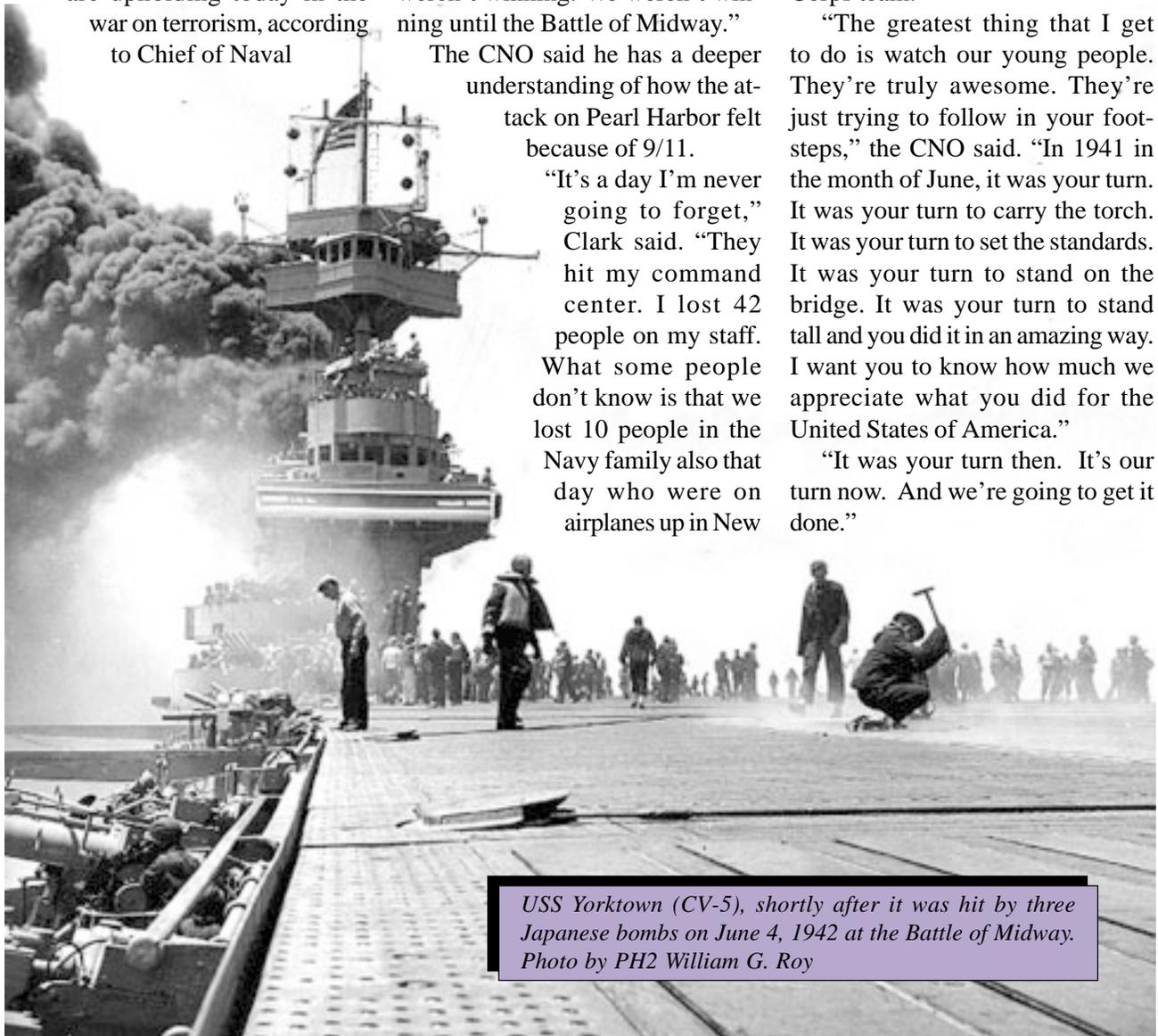
What some people don't know is that we lost 10 people in the Navy family also that day who were on airplanes up in New

York, Pennsylvania and Washington. After USS Cole and 9/11, I've started to take this personal."

Clark told the Midway veterans that they would be proud of their successors in today's Navy-Marine Corps team.

"The greatest thing that I get to do is watch our young people. They're truly awesome. They're just trying to follow in your footsteps," the CNO said. "In 1941 in the month of June, it was your turn. It was your turn to carry the torch. It was your turn to set the standards. It was your turn to stand on the bridge. It was your turn to stand tall and you did it in an amazing way. I want you to know how much we appreciate what you did for the United States of America."

"It was your turn then. It's our turn now. And we're going to get it done."



USS Yorktown (CV-5), shortly after it was hit by three Japanese bombs on June 4, 1942 at the Battle of Midway. Photo by PH2 William G. Roy

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Chloe Sanders, age 3, finds a front-row seat to watch her mother, Yeoman 1st Class Cynthia Sanders, join the distinguished ranks of Navy Retiree. (photo by JO2 Jeffrey Nichols)

### *Shift Colors*

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To submit reunion notices please use the following format:

**USS Ships Name (USS 123)**

Date of reunion

Contact phone number:

*Due to space constraints and the overwhelming number of reunions, we are listing reunion name(s), date(s) and contact numbers only.*

# A message from the Chief of Naval Personnel



Your Navy's participation in the global war on terrorism continues to be nothing short of awe-inspiring. In the first ten months, our Navy has been at the leading edge of the fight. Here are just a few quick facts:

- 78 U.S. Navy ships have deployed to CENTCOM.
- More than half of the active carrier force has engaged in combat operations (*Enterprise, Carl Vinson, Kitty Hawk, Theodore Roosevelt, John C. Stennis, John F. Kennedy, and George Washington*).
- Five of 12 ARGs have joined the fight (*Peleliu, Bataan, Bonhomme Richard, Wasp, and Belleau Wood*).
- 60,000 Sailors and Marines have deployed to CENTCOM.
- Over 13,000 Navy and Marine reservists have been mobilized.
- Naval aviation has flown 12,000 combat sorties.
- We dropped over 5,000 precision weapons, including firing 82 Tomahawks.

That's delivering credible combat power to the four corners of the earth. As you know, we can also do this with complete freedom of action and without a permission slip from other nations.

It's also a busy time in Washington, D.C., as Congress works on delivering a budget which supports our men and women. Several of the issues we are working were addressed during the Secretary of the Navy's Retiree Council which met in Washington in April. The council took note of the dramatic accomplishments that have taken place in the past two years in the health care arena, specifically the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy (TSRx) and TRICARE for Life programs. The Council expressed in its letter to Secretary England the appreciation of Navy and Marine Corps retirees and their families for the Department of the Navy's efforts in making these programs become a reality.

The Council felt that two major issues merited top attention on behalf of the retired community: changes to the Survivor Benefit Plan and the concurrent receipt of retired pay and disability compensation for military retirees. On these issues, the Council expressed the following opinions:

"We must take care of our spouses and surviving spouses who stood by our sides throughout our careers and, in many cases, sacrificed the opportunity to pursue careers of their own. Reducing their survivor's annuity at age 62 is an embarrassment."

"The time has come to provide our disabled retirees just due by providing full entitlement to both retired pay and disability compensation. It is patently unjust to combine these entitlements for those who served arduous duty in the military while providing both to other Federal retirees."

In an effort to help you get more of the information you need, we have established a Customer Service Center (CSC) at the Navy Personnel Command in Millington, TN. The CSC became operational in April '02 for active duty Sailors and has opened to rave reviews. The center's capacity has since been expanded to handle responses from our entire Navy family to include reservists, retirees, and family members. If you have a question, call 1-866-U-ASK-NPC (1-866-827-5672) between 0700-1900 CST Monday through Friday, or you can visit the web site at [www.staynavy.navy.mil](http://www.staynavy.navy.mil).

This is my last letter to you as your Chief of Naval Personnel. Serving you and our active duty Sailors has been the honor and privilege of a lifetime. We have made real progress in both improving the quality of service for our young men and women and demonstrating that their service is highly valued by our fellow citizens. As a result, our Navy's combat capability is exceptional and our reenlistment rates are at all-time highs. In September I will become president and CEO of The Retired Officers Association (TROA). This position with TROA will allow me to continue serving you and **all** of our men and women and their families. It's hard to think of a better position outside of wearing the uniform.

Thank you for your own personal example of dedicated service to our nation and your continued support to all our men and women currently serving.

All the best!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norb Ryan Jr." in a cursive style.

NORB RYAN JR.  
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy



# Retired Activities Branch

**Dear Fellow Retirees,**

The March-June 2002 *Shift Colors* was one of the largest newsletters published in my nine years of working with the Retired Activities Branch. Of note is the section in my last article mentioning that a list of stateside Casualty Assistance Coordinators for those interested in volunteering for “Military Funeral Honors Details” would be included in that edition. I found out at the last minute that the details on administering the program had not been worked out. As soon as a Navy policy is promulgated we will publish additional information in the *Shift Colors*.

In the last edition I also provided you information on “Special Compensation” and “Concurrent Receipt”. However, due to printing deadlines and the lack of finalization of legislative initiatives, what is the latest when we go to print may have changed by the time you receive your copy of *Shift Colors*. So, I encourage you to consider joining a military fraternal organization, i.e. the Fleet Reserve (FRA), The Retired Officers Association (TROA) or The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), to name a few, or visit their web sites to stay updated on your entitlements and benefits.

During the months of April and May, I had the privilege of participating in the Secretary of the Navy’s Retiree Council (SECNAV RC), the Army’s Chief of Staff Retiree Council and the Air Force Retiree Council. The councils are composed of retired representatives of their service. The members articulate their retiree communities’ concerns and forward

recommendations to their service’s Secretary or Chief of Staff. The Services again are working together to let leadership know how the retiree community feels about (primarily): Full Concurrent Receipt, Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) offset provision, Concurrent Receipt of SBP, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and TRICARE for Life (TFL). We will publish the Secretary of the Navy’s Report with his response in one of our future newsletters.

“I didn’t know that,” is a phrase I hear from members of the retiree community far too often. Fellow retirees and survivors, we have to be an informed community to ensure nothing we are entitled to slips by. Go to Retiree Appreciation Days or call your Retired Activities Office (RAO) and ask, “what’s new.” You contributed your youth and energy to the military for many years. You owe it to yourself and your beneficiaries to be knowledgeable of events that affect you.

**Do you know where your DD214 (discharge or retirement order) is located?** Your survivors will have a tough time arranging military funeral honors without this important document.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

In Your Service,

Dennis Mills

Head, Navy Retiree Operations Section

## ***Other important issues addressed at the Retiree Council meeting:***

Vice Adm. Ryan’s letter (page 3) details key issues addressed by the 2002 Secretary of the Navy Retiree Council. Additional issues discussed include:

- The Uniformed Services Former Spouses Protection Act (USFSPA) – Support legislative changes to USFSPA effecting changes to the division of retired pay.
- Access to Health Care – Reimburse Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs) adequately for care provided to Medicare-eligible beneficiaries.
- TRICARE Communication and Marketing – Establish an aggressive, comprehensive, unrelenting non-traditional marketing and communication plan.
- Subsidy for TRICARE Retiree Dental Program

(TRDP) – Urge DoD to appropriately subsidize TRDP and to extend Plan to retirees overseas.

- Monetary Penalty for Military Retiree Late Enrollment in Medicare Part B to Qualify for TRICARE for Life (TFL) – Support a policy change to grant a waiver of Medicare Part B enrollment for military retirees eligible for TRICARE benefits if they were eligible but enrolled in Medicare Part B prior to June 5, 2001.
- Incorporate Department of the Navy retirees as part of the “Quality of Service” continuum – Establish a program that utilizes the talent pool represented by Naval Service retirees.
- Authorize and implement payroll deduction and automated payment of TRICARE Prime premiums.



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## Retired Activities Branch

# Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program

*From the Office of Personnel Management web site*

FLTCIP is an important new benefit for more than 20 million members of the Federal family, including Federal and Postal employees and annuitants, members and retired members of the uniformed services and qualified relatives. We contracted with John Hancock and MetLife, who formed a joint venture called Long Term Care Partners, to provide this insurance.

### **Q. What is long term care?**

**A.** Long term care is the kind of care that you would need to help you perform daily activities if you had an ongoing illness or disability. It also includes the kind of care you would need if you had a severe cognitive problem like Alzheimer's disease. It is help with eating, bathing, dressing, transferring from a bed to a chair, toileting, continence, etc. This type of care isn't received in a hospital and isn't intended to cure you. It is not acute care. It is chronic care that you might need for the rest of your life. It can be received in your own home, at a nursing home or other long term care facility.

### **Q. What is long term care insurance?**

**A.** It is insurance that helps you pay for long term care services, such as home care or care in a nursing home or assisted living facility.

### **Q. I'm healthy. I won't need long term care. Or, will I?**

**A.** The odds are that you will need long term care at some point in your life, and you may need it sooner than you think. About 40 percent of people needing long term care are adults ages 18-64. They may have had an accident or a stroke, developed multiple sclerosis, etc. While we hope you never need it, everyone should have a plan for meeting their long term care needs. Many will do so through long term care insurance.

### **Q. Is long term care expensive?**

**A.** Yes, it can be very expensive. It can easily exhaust your savings which is one reason you might decide to buy long term care insurance.

### **Q. But doesn't my health plan already cover long term care?**

**A.** No, in most cases it does not. Health plans may cover some of the skilled medical services you may need when you

can't care for yourself after an illness or injury, but usually for a limited period and only as long as you are showing improvement. Health plans typically do not cover ongoing chronic care such as an extended stay in an assisted living facility or a continuing need for a home health aide to help you in and out of bed. No health plan that we know of will cover all of your long term care needs.

### **Q. But won't Medicare cover long term care?**

**A.** No, in most cases it will not. Medicare is a Federal health insurance program for people who are age 65 or older, some people with disabilities under age 65, people with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a transplant), and people with Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). Medicare will cover the first 100 days of care in a nursing home if: (1) you are receiving skilled care, and (2) you have a qualifying hospital stay of at least three days and enter the nursing home within 30 days of that hospital discharge. There are also some deductibles and co-pays (meaning you have to pay part of the cost). Medicare also covers limited home visits for skilled care.

It's very important to realize a few things about long term care versus Medicare's coverage:

1. most long term care is not skilled care,
2. most long term care does not take place in a nursing home,
3. most nursing home stays do not immediately follow a hospital stay,
4. most people who require care in their home usually need more or different types of care than Medicare covers,
5. most people won't start Medicare coverage until age 65.

So don't count on Medicare to cover your long term care needs.

### **Q. I recently read that Medicare is now covering Alzheimer's Disease. Is this true?**

**A.** The information that you are seeing is related to the decision by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to no longer exclude persons with Alzheimer's disease from accessing Medicare-covered services due to their diagnosis alone. Medicare still only covers skilled care under certain conditions for a limited period of time. All the restrictions on receiving nursing home care or home care, including a prior

*continued on next page*



# Retired Activities Branch

hospital stay and need for skilled care, as well as required deductibles and copayments, still apply. Alzheimer's disease is a chronic illness. Persons with this illness typically require non-skilled, custodial care for long periods of time. This type of care is still not covered under Medicare, but the change in Medicare's policy has left many with the impression that it might be.

## **Q. But won't Medicaid cover long term care?**

**A.** Medicaid is a state-based program supplemented by Federal funds that acts as a safety net to provide health services to the poor and impoverished. Medicaid covers long term care services and might cover you if you meet your state's poverty criteria and receive care that meets your state's guidelines. Usually this means expending all but \$2,000

of your assets and savings (except for perhaps your house and your car). It also means receiving care from a limited number of state-approved caregivers (mostly institutions like nursing homes) that are willing to accept Medicaid's payments. People that you wouldn't consider poor sometimes qualify for Medicaid by "playing the game" and "beating the system," usually with legal help. States react with more rules.

If you don't have much in the way of assets and income, Medicaid is probably your best bet for long term care. If you can afford long term care insurance, want to control the type and location of care that you receive, and aren't interested in (or don't want to count on) beating the system, the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program deserves your attention.

For more information on the FLTCIP call **800-582-3337** or visit [www.ltcfeds.com](http://www.ltcfeds.com).

## **What should my spouse know in the event of my death?**

This question is often asked of *Shift Colors* and the Retired Activities Branch. While it may be impossible to truly prepare for the overwhelming emotions and dilemmas that arise with the loss of a loved one, it does help when most of the issues have already been settled.

This checklist provides information that may prove helpful as you prepare one another for the task of handling the affairs of a deceased loved one.

\_\_\_ Create a military file that includes your retirement orders, separation papers, medical records, etc. Make sure your spouse knows the location and telephone number of the nearest military installation.

\_\_\_ Create a military retired pay file that includes the pertinent information for DFAS and NPC. To contact:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
Directorate of Retired Pay (Code PRR)  
Post Office Box 99191  
Cleveland, OH 44199-1126  
**800-321-1080, 216-522-5955 or 800-269-5170**

Navy Personnel Command  
Retired Activities Branch and GI Bill Programs Branch  
PERS-604  
5720 Integrity Drive  
Millington, TN 38055-6604

Your file should also include the number of any VA claim still pending and the address of the VA office being used; a

list of deductions currently being made from benefits; and the name, relationship and address of the person you have made the beneficiary of any unpaid retired pay at the time of death.

\_\_\_ Create an annuities file. This should contain information regarding the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP), Civil Service, etc. Additional information regarding SBP annuities can be obtained from the DFAS Denver office at **800-435-3396**.

\_\_\_ Create a personal document file that has copies of marriage certificates, divorce decrees, adoptions and naturalization papers.

\_\_\_ Create an income tax file. Include copies of both your state and federal income tax returns.

\_\_\_ Create a property tax file. Include copies of tax bills, deeds and any other related information.

\_\_\_ Create an insurance policy file. Include life, property, accident, liability and hospitalization policies.

\_\_\_ In a secure location, maintain a list of all bank accounts (joint or individual). Include the location of all deposit boxes, savings bonds, stocks, bonds and any securities owned.

\_\_\_ In a secure location, maintain a list of all charge accounts and credit cards. Include account numbers and mailing addresses.

\_\_\_ Maintain a list of all associations and organizations of which you are a member. Some of them could be helpful to your spouse.

\_\_\_ Maintain a list of all friends and business associates

*continued on next page*



## Retired Activities Branch

who may be helpful. Include name, address and phone number.

\_\_ Spend time with your spouse discussing your plans in respect to the type of funeral, burial, cremation or service you would prefer. If they know your desires, it may resolve many of the questions they might have to face at a later date.

\_\_ Visit a local funeral home and pre-arrange your services. Many states will allow you to pre-pay for services.

\_\_ Investigate the decisions that you and your family have agreed upon. Many states have specific laws and guidelines regulating cremation and burials at sea. Some states require a letter of authority signed by the deceased in order to authorize a cremation. Know the laws in your specific area and how they may affect your decisions. Information regarding Burials at Sea can be obtained by phoning the Naval Office

of Medical/Dental Affairs-Mortuary Affairs Division at **800-876-1131**.

\_\_ Once your decisions have been made and you're comfortable with them, have a will drawn up outlining all your wishes.

\_\_ Ensure that your will and all other official documents are maintained in a secure location known by your loved ones.

\_\_ When all the decision-making and documenting is completed, continue to enjoy life with peace of mind.

Rest assured that you have done everything possible to help prepare your loved ones for a day when you can no longer help. If you have other suggestions that might prove helpful and would like to share them with your fellow retirees, send them to the Retired Activities Branch at our address on the previous page for inclusion in a future issue.

### *Survivor's Guide*

This information is for family members of surviving spouses of military retirees. It is intended as a guide and is not all-inclusive.

· Notify the Defense Finance and Accounting Service – Denver if the surviving spouse was receiving an annuity from the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), the Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP), the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP) or "Forgotten Widows Annuity." Call **800-435-3396**

· If the survivor was a Civil Service retiree or receiving an annuity from the Federal government, notify the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) at **724-794-8690, Option 3 or 888-767-6738**.

· If the survivor was receiving Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) or other compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), contact the VA at **800-827-1000**.

· Notify private sector or retirement custodian if the deceased received funds from an employer sponsored plan.

· Notify financial institutions where the deceased saved, invested or maintained funds.

· Notify insurance companies.

· Contact your nearest Retired Activities Office (RAO) or Retired Services Office (RSO) for assistance. The RAO phone numbers are routinely published in *Shift Colors*. Call your nearest military installation for the RSO locations.

· If the deceased was receiving Social Security benefits, notify the Social Security Administration at **800-772-1213**.

· If the deceased participated in the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) contact the Federal Retirement Thrift Board at **504-255-6000**.

· If the deceased was a member of a military fraternal group, such as, the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA), The Retired Officers Association (TROA), The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), The American Legion or DAV, please notify that organization.

Realizing that the above list is incomplete, we would appreciate any input from retirees or survivors on information that would be pertinent for the family members of a deceased service member.



# Armed Forces Retirement Home - Gulfport

## (Formerly the U.S. Naval Home)

### *Veterans' stories vital for documenting history*

*By Doug LeMere, Armed Forces Retirement Home - Gulfport*

Looking out the windows of the Naval Home in Gulfport, the view is one of Live Oaks and the Gulf. It is a peaceful sight, one of the very best on the coast.

The grounds around the home are active, with people coming and going. Occasionally an ambulance drives in and then out, slowly gliding around the curves as it rolls towards the main gate. One might wonder if there is a friend inside.

Others may wonder if they will make it back to the home. The thought that crosses my mind is "there goes a part of history." I wonder if we ever got the story of the passenger, his oral history.

Thousands of World War II veterans will not be heard from again after this year. Their stories, if not captured, will go untold, and future generations will lose the richness of this heritage.

Over half of the residents of the Naval Home are veterans of our largest war. How many veterans have sat down and documented their story? How many have passed on the memories used to

maintain our factual history?

The Naval Home, now named the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Gulfport, is taking the steps to maintain that history. In conjunction with the



*Senate Republican Leader Trent Lott, talks with resident John Kees, retired Navy WWII veteran, during his visit to Armed Forces Retirement Home.*

Center for Oral History, at the University of Southern Mississippi, the oral history program at the Naval Home is alive and running.

"Already a handful of interviews are providing useful facts and anecdotes," said Pic Firmin, interviewer for USM.

"We have had some excellent interviews, with a good turnout from the residents," he said.

Firmin has been interviewing residents for several months and is a major asset to the program. With the help of Mary Allen, a resident of the home, the program is running smoothly.

"The oral history of the home is absolutely imperative," said Macon Patteson, resident and curator of the Naval Home museum. "Oral history gets down to the nitty-gritty of the person, down into the heart of history and into the details of everyday life. The program sat idle for several years. The opportunity to dust it off and open the doors to the residents came this year. When we kicked off the oral history program, we posted bulletins on our internal cable network."

The first person to respond was Amos Nissley. He said he wanted to tell the story of the attack on Okinawa, the way he saw it through his binoculars.

"We had intelligence reports of an eight-mile beach," he said. "The only thing we saw were cliffs, and I wondered how the guys were going to get over them."

At that moment, the bombs from the nearby ships started to disintegrate a targeted section of the cliffs, he said. Soon after, landing craft vessels brought in bulldozers and the access was created.

Maintaining that history, for Nissley and for our country, truly is imperative. Stories from the eyes of these veterans cannot be created from any other source. The day-to-day experiences recorded will help to preserve the history of our great country.

The Armed Forces Retirement Home-Gulfport is working each day, to ensure those stories are documented for future generations.

### **Retirement Home fees reduced**

Resident fees have been reduced at the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Gulfport, cutting in half the fees for independent and assisted living care for veterans of all military services. The National Defense Authorization Act for 2002 has implemented this reduction until Dec. 31, 2006, or until new or renovated quarters are available for residents.

The percentages and limitations on the maximum monthly amount that are applicable to fees charged to residents are as follows: independent living, 35 percent, but not to exceed \$800 per month; assisted living, 40 percent, but not to exceed \$1,300 per month; and long-term care, 65 percent, but not to exceed \$2,500 per month.

The home has vacancies. For information, please call **800-332-3527**.



## Law increases veterans' burial benefits

Under a new law, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will increase reimbursement for funeral expenses and cemetery plots for service-disabled veterans and provide government markers for veterans' graves even if families already have installed private markers.

"The modest increases in payments to veterans' families, and the additional monuments to our heroes' service, are steps toward better acknowledging this nation's appreciation of its veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi.

The Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001 increases the burial and funeral expense allowance for veterans who die as a result of a service-connected disability from \$1,500 to \$2,000 and the cemetery plot allowance, for certain other disabled veterans, from \$150 to \$300.

The law also directs VA to honor requests for government markers for veterans buried in private cemeteries

even if their graves have headstones or markers furnished at private expense. Previous law prevented VA from providing markers in that situation. These increases are among many provisions of Public Law 107-103 that expand other veterans' benefits.

About 9,800 families receive funeral expense reimbursement for service-connected deaths each year. The \$500 increase in the funeral reimbursement, the first since 1988, is expected to increase the government's cost by about \$5 million a year. This change applies to deaths on or after Sept. 11, 2001.

About 90,000 families become eligible for the plot allowance annually. The cost of increasing the amount, which had been \$150 since 1973, will be about \$13 million a year. The higher allowance will be paid for deaths on or after Dec. 1, 2001.

The plot allowance is paid when a veteran is buried in a non-government cemetery. Also, the veteran must meet

one of the following three criteria: the veteran was eligible to receive VA disability compensation or a VA pension, was discharged from military service due to disability or died in a VA hospital.

In the past, people who submitted VA applications to receive a government marker had to certify that the veteran's grave was unmarked. Some families complained of unfairness because they could not obtain the government's free marker to commemorate the veteran's service if they had purchased a marker.

Under the new law, the applicant must certify that the marker will be placed only in a cemetery. VA will send the marker only to a designated cemetery.

The new provision for markers applies to veterans' deaths on or after Dec. 27, 2001. By Feb. 1, 2006, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs will report to Congress on how much this benefit is being used and recommend whether or not to continue it.

## *Charter renewed for Advisory Committee on Women Veterans*

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi has renewed the charter for a special 14-member panel that advises him on issues affecting women veterans.

"VA is being called upon to provide more services for women veterans," Principi said. "We must make a special effort to ensure we're meeting their needs for health care, rehabilitation, outreach and other VA programs."

The Advisory Committee on Women Veterans, established in 1984, reports annually to the VA secretary with assessments of the needs of women veterans.

It also reviews the adequacy of VA

programs to the needs of women veterans and makes recommendations for administrative and legislative changes.

The director of the Center for Women Veterans, Dr. Irene Trowell-Harris, serves as the executive director for the committee. VA's Center for Women Veterans, created in 1994, ensures that women veterans receive benefits and services on a par with male veterans; that they encounter no discrimination in their attempts to access these services; and that they are treated with respect, dignity and understanding.

"We've created change through collaboration," said Dr. Trowell-Harris.

"We've provided staff education and training, strengthened interagency relationships, developed partnerships with veterans service organizations, enhanced the flow of information, responded to over 200 inquiries since October, fostered research on women's health and incorporated women veterans' issues as part of the national women's agenda."

The 14-member committee is among 21 special VA advisory panels. By law, the charters of those panels expire every two years unless renewed by the VA secretary for another two-year term. Principi renewed the charter for the women's panel on Dec. 31.



## *Quality of veterans' health care rates high marks*

The health care veterans receive from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is comparable to -- and often better than -- care provided by private sector counterparts, according to recent reports.

VA data from 18 indicators were compared with similar data from managed health care organizations, government sources and population-based surveys.

For 16 of the 18 indicators, VA outcomes exceeded the "best-reported" performance data from health care organizations measured by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), Medicare Managed Care Plans (MMCP), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) surveys, and Health and Human Services National Center Health Statistics (NCHS).

"VA health care has come a long way in its more than 50 years of existence," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "This is a new VA, substantially different, profoundly better

and a recognized leader in providing quality health care. This data, in part, explains why so many more veterans are coming to us for their care."

The indicators cover a wide range of care, from diabetes and hypertension to cancer screening and immunizations. With a focus on preventive care, for example, VA provided screening for cervical cancer 89 percent of the time, compared with NCQA's 78 percent. For diabetic patients, VA examined patients' kidney function 72 percent of the time, compared to NCQA's 46 percent.

"To a large degree, VA health care is improving because of an emphasis on the use of clinical practice guidelines and system-wide performance measures throughout VA's 1,300 sites of care," said Dr. Robert H. Roswell, under secretary for health. "VA quality used to be questionable. Today, VA is a health care industry that is highly competitive and in many areas leads the nation."

The performance measure system is

an evidence-based means to assure veterans receive the best care possible. Even in areas where comparable private sector data is not available, VA has made significant progress.

For example, screening for problem alcohol use last year was at 74 percent, up from 66 percent the previous year; educating patients about prostate cancer rose from 71 percent to 83 percent, and screening patients for depression rose from 70 percent to 81 percent.

Clinical statistics only tell a portion of the story. For the second year in a row, independent surveys confirm that patient satisfaction scores for VA outpatient care top those received by private sector health care providers.

"VA does not measure to see where we've been," said Principi. "Instead, we measure to support where we want to go. We will not rest on our laurels. We will continue to improve, and that's a pledge I make to all veterans."

## **VA compensates more veterans exposed to radiation**

Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) Anthony J. Principi recently announced the addition of five new cancers to the list of diseases presumed to be connected to the exposure of veterans to radiation during their military service. Veterans diagnosed with cancer of the bone, brain, colon, lung or ovary will have an easier time establishing entitlement to compensation for their illnesses effective March 26, 2002.

"These veterans accepted the risks of duty and have borne the burden of their illnesses in service to our nation. They should not have to bear an additional and unequal burden to prove they deserve the benefits they've so rightfully earned. The new rules will not cure their cancers, but they will ease the burden of proof required to receive appropriate compensation for their disabilities," Principi said.

The new rules apply to veterans who participated in "radiation-risk activities" while on active duty, during active duty for training or inactive duty training as a reservist.

The definition of radiation-risk activities has also been

expanded to include service at Amchitka Island, Alaska, prior to Jan. 1, 1974, if a veteran was exposed while performing duties related to certain underground nuclear tests. The new definition also includes service at gaseous diffusion plants located in Paducah, Ky., Portsmouth, Ohio and an area known as K25 at Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Under current statutes, the following diseases are presumed to be service connected if the veteran participated in a radiation-risk activity: leukemia (other than chronic lymphocytic leukemia), cancer of the thyroid, breast, pharynx, esophagus, stomach, small intestine, pancreas, gall bladder, bile ducts, salivary gland, or urinary tract, multiple myeloma, lymphomas (except Hodgkin's disease), primary cancer of the liver (except if cirrhosis or hepatitis B is indicated) or bronchiolo-alveolar carcinoma.

Veterans or their survivors can file claims for compensation by contacting a VA regional office at **800-827-1000** or visiting [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).



## Online system speeds up veteran home loan processing

A new federal Internet-based system for mortgage bankers and other lenders will speed up the processing of home loans for veterans through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). After the veteran's information is entered by the financial institution providing the loan, the lender will receive a certificate authenticating the veteran's eligibility in seconds.

Previously, when a certificate of eligibility was needed, a form was submitted to VA and the certificate was mailed, a process that can take a week or more.

"This leap forward in VA automation is great news for the veteran anxious to close a loan and move into a new home," said VA Under Secretary for Benefits Daniel L. Cooper. "When interest rates begin to change, getting loan procedures resolved quickly can be important to our veterans."

The new system, called Automated Certificate of Eligibility (ACE), should be especially beneficial for active-duty members and veterans who are using their home loan benefit for the first time.

Last year VA guaranteed more than 250,000 loans valued at \$31.2 billion. Approximately 80 percent of these loans require a certificate of eligibility. VA anticipates the ACE system will be able to generate a certificate for 30 to 50 percent of these loans. However, some loans will still require manual

processing by VA, including veterans whose eligibility is based on National Guard or Reserve service, those with irregular discharges and those in several other situations.

Where the new electronic system is used, the eligibility certificate will be printed from the lender's computer and it will be customized, bearing the date and lender's name as well as a unique authorization number. For the veteran, that represents a change from the traditional certificate process in which the veteran often kept a copy of the certificate of eligibility to take to a prospective lender.

The ACE system will not reject any veterans for home loans and lenders will not be involved in deciding any eligibility issues. A veteran whose eligibility involves special issues requiring the traditional staff review may still request a certificate of eligibility in advance of approaching a bank or mortgage company with a loan application by sending in VA Form 26-1880, Request for Determination of Eligibility for VA Home Loan Benefits.

All lenders participating in the VA loan guaranty program have access to the system. Veterans or servicemembers interested in learning more about their VA home loan benefits or who wish to obtain forms may visit [www.homeloans.va.gov](http://www.homeloans.va.gov) on the Internet.

## Benefits guide free on web

*By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem, USA  
American Forces Press Service*

The Department of Veterans Affairs has made its comprehensive benefits guide available for free on the Internet.

Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents [www.va.gov/pubaff/fedben/Fedben.pdf](http://www.va.gov/pubaff/fedben/Fedben.pdf) is a 100-page handbook describing benefits provided by the VA and an overview of programs and services for veterans provided by other federal agencies.

VA officials estimate most of America's 25 million veterans qualify for at least some VA benefits, but many are unaware of their entitlements. This handbook includes a listing of toll-free numbers, World Wide Web information resources, and VA facilities.

Most veterans are eligible for healthcare and burial benefits. Many are also eligible for home loan guarantees,

educational assistance, vocational rehabilitation, life insurance, and compensation for service-connected disabilities.

This guide explains how to access many of these benefits online. For instance, it provides a Web address and instructions for enrolling via the Internet into the VA healthcare system. The book describes in detail the priority for care and services available. Separate sections describe specialized services available to Gulf War veterans and those exposed to Agent Orange or radiation.

The Montgomery GI Bill and other education benefits are explained in depth. Burial benefits and employment service are also covered, as are rate charts for the various forms of compensation VA provides.

The book can be purchased through the Government Printing Office for \$5 for U.S.-based customers and \$6.25 for those overseas by calling toll-free **866-512-1800**. By providing it online at, the VA hopes to make the information available to more veterans.

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# Centenarian Sailors

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*Julio "Jay" Ereñeta  
Chief Warrant Officer  
(Naval Flight Officer,  
Radio Electronics,  
Aviation), USN (Ret.)*

**Submitted by Frank Ereñeta**

My father, Julio "Jay" Ereñeta, Chief Warrant Officer (Naval Flight Officer, Radio Electronics, Aviation), U.S. Navy (Ret.) was born on Jan. 2, 1902, and is now 100 years old. He is agile, healthy, and ambulatory. His diction is clear; his recollection of names, dates, and events is still remarkably accurate.

A variety of old flight logs, correspondence, documents, insignia, memorabilia, weaponry, photographs, and videotapes are available and

uncatalogued.

Thank you for recognizing him as a Navy Centenarian. His longevity (and my communications with national associations) suggest that he has to be among the oldest known living veterans of the naval minewarfare community (1919); the naval radio communications community (1919); the battleship community (1921); and the naval aviation community (1922).

**Duty Station Highlights:**

World War I North Sea minefields in USS EIDER (Minesweeper no. 17), March 1919; witnessed world's first trans-Atlantic flight by U.S. Navy Flying Boat NC-4 at Lisbon, Portugal, May 1919; witnessed World War I scuttling of German High Seas Fleet, Scapa Flow, Orkney Islands, June 1919; in 1919-1920 served in old wooden warship, USS HARTFORD (Admiral Farragut's flagship at Civil War Battle of Mobile Bay, 1864); attended Navy Radio School (Great Lakes) with classmate and life long friend, radio/TV personality, Arthur "Red" Godfrey, 1920-1921; served on coal burning battleship, USS FLORIDA (BB-30) in 1921-1923; first aircrewman flight in F5L Seaplane of USS WRIGHT (AZ-1) at Newport R.I. in 1922; on China Station/Yangtze Patrol in USS FINCH (AM-9), 1924-1928; Aviation communications, Cavite/Los Banos, Philippine Islands, 1928-1930; Comm. Ctr, 1st Nav Dist, Boston MA, 1930-1932.

Aviation Squadrons aircrewman (Radio Electronics) in:

USS LANGLEY (CV-1), VT, VS-1, VS-3, in 1932-1934 and 1935-1936; USS LEXINGTON (CV-2), VF-5B and VB-2 in 1935; USS TRENTON (CL-11) Aviation Unit, 1936-1937; USS SAVANNAH (CL-42) Aviation Unit VCS-8, 1937-1940; NAS North Island, San Diego, Flight Ops, 1940-1942; Solomon Islands Campaign (Carrier Aircraft Service Units, Guadalcanal, Russell Islands, Munda, Segi Point, Green Island), 1942-1944; COMSEVENTHFLT Aviation Liaison Officer to U.S. Army 503rd Parachute Regiment, Philippine Visayan Islands liberation, 1945; Flight Ops, NAS, North Island, San Diego, 1946-1947; USN Retired 1949.

**Career Path:** Mess Attendant (Radioman Striker); Electrician's Mate Third Class (Radio); Radioman Second Class; Radioman First Class, Radioman First Class (Aviation aircrewman); ACRM (Chief Petty Officer, Aviation Radio Electronics); Warrant Officer (Naval Flight Officer, Radio Electronics, Aviation); Chief Warrant Officer (Naval Flight Officer, Radio Electronics, Aviation).



*Great Grandpa "Jay" with Rebecca Anne Ereñeta Fitch Fietze*

Thank you Frank Ereñeta, for a detailed look at a great shipmate! If you know a Sailor, retired or not, who has reached 100 years old, send us photos, a write-up or any information you may have to help us celebrate their service and their life. -- *Editor, Shift Colors*

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# VETeran NETwork

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## Looking for a second career?

The Internet can be one of your most valuable tools when searching for a job or a second career after retiring. In the past, you may have relied on the classified section of newspapers or a job recruiter. Now, the search is as simple as visiting different web sites to input keywords for the job you want and instantly finding results.

Web sites for job searches differ from newspaper classifieds, because in addition to listing available jobs, they allow you to post your resume for potential employers to review. Employers search these sites by inputting keywords for the type of workers they want to hire.

While some job search companies only use the Internet to help people find jobs, others allow customers to send resumes by fax or other means to be listed in their database.

When searching for jobs on-line, you should provide as much information as you can give about your qualifications, without narrowing your options. Employee questionnaires may ask how far you are willing to travel; salary requirements, and where you want to work.

If you don't own a computer or are not particularly proficient at using the Internet, visit your local library and ask for assistance. There are many other places that you can go to use a computer to search for employment. Your local employment agency, military transition office, Internet café (there will be a fee to use computers there), or even a friend's house.

*Shift Colors* has conducted some research to find some web sites and employment services that help veterans find employment. We cannot over emphasize the fact that we do not endorse any particular site or the services they offer. We just want to list some sites that may be helpful to shipmates, and we will be glad to include additional sites that you recommend in a future issue.

All descriptions of these web sites come from each web site -- **in their words** and with their permission.

\*Denotes services that you do not need internet access to use.

\* [www.corpscareers.tv/press/index.htm](http://www.corpscareers.tv/press/index.htm) - Don Peña, a veteran of the U.S. Navy, began CorpsCareers in 2001 after his own transition struggle from the military to the civilian world. "I hit a dead end in the military," he says. "And I didn't know how to translate my years in the service into something I could sell on a resume." CorpsCareers, he hopes, will ensure an easier transition for his fellow veterans.

Contact Corps Careers at **202-362-9618**

\* [www.taonline.com](http://www.taonline.com) - One of the very first e-recruiting sites for the 500,000 plus job seekers from the military community was founded by former military personnel. It has been recognized by industry experts as a leader in its space, and no other site in its category offers the number of resumes, job postings, unique visitors and resources for transitioning service members and other job seekers from the military community. Through its alliances with the Reserve Officers Association, the Non Commissioned Officers Association, and other military organizations, and because it publishes the best selling resume preparation software for job seekers from the military, TAOonline has established its brand as a top e-recruiting site for the military sector.

Contact TA online at Phone: **888-213-8587**



[www.vetjobs.com](http://www.vetjobs.com) - VetJobs.com is owned and operated by veterans for veterans. Ted Daywalt (President) and Keith Baker (COO) are both retired senior Naval Officers who have had years of experience in the recruiting industry. They have put together a seasoned management team of professionals to assist companies, recruiting firms and hiring authorities to

successfully reach the military veteran market. VetJobs.com is not just for senior military officers. It is for all personnel who at one time or another served in one of the military branches of the United States.

Contact Vetjobs at **877-838-5627**

\* [www.ncoausa.org/vets\\_employmnt\\_assistance.htm](http://www.ncoausa.org/vets_employmnt_assistance.htm) - The Non Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA), since

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# VETeran NETwork

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1973, has sponsored one of the most comprehensive and renowned Veterans Employment Assistance (VEA) programs available today.

The NCOA/VEA program is designed to help veterans find jobs after release from active service. Although the program is primarily aimed at separating or retiring military personnel, all veterans and their spouses/dependents are welcome to participate. What makes NCOA's program particularly unique is that there are no membership requirements to participate. Additionally, the program is not just for NCO's or Petty Officers. All ranks and grades are welcome and encouraged to participate and there is never a fee of any kind charged for the service. If an individual has served the country, honorably

and faithfully and that individual now needs a job, then NCOA wants to help.

Contact Flo Rodriguez at **210-653-6161 ext. 221**

\* **www.recruitmilitary.com** - RecruitMilitary's unique web hiring system was designed exclusively by military veterans, so you can expect features and services that are relevant to your career change. We have a suite of tools to help make your job search quick and easy. Our proprietary 6-Step Resume Builder examines all aspects of your career, including goals and job preferences, and compiles them into a high quality resume.

Contact RecruitMilitary at **513-621-5349**

## Other Job Search Sites

These job search sites and employment assistance can only be accessed through the Internet.

[www.ajb.org](http://www.ajb.org) - America's Job Bank

[www.alljobsearch.com](http://www.alljobsearch.com) - All Jobs Search

<http://jobstar.org> - Job Star

[www.careerjournal.com](http://www.careerjournal.com) - Career Journal

[www.international-job-search.com](http://www.international-job-search.com) - International Job Search

[www.interec.net](http://www.interec.net) - Job Search for Engineers

[www.government-jobs.biz](http://www.government-jobs.biz) - Government Jobs Unlimited

[www.careercc.com](http://www.careercc.com) - Career Consulting Corner

[www.hotjobs.com](http://www.hotjobs.com) - Hot Jobs

[www.careerweb.com](http://www.careerweb.com) - Career Web

[www.careersite.com](http://www.careersite.com) - Career Site

[www.flipdog.com](http://www.flipdog.com) - FlipDog

[www.careercast.com](http://www.careercast.com) - Career Cast

[www.nationjob.com](http://www.nationjob.com) - Nation Job



[www.directemployers.com](http://www.directemployers.com) - Direct Employers

[www.hirehealth.com](http://www.hirehealth.com) - Hire Health

[www.allretailjobs.com](http://www.allretailjobs.com) - All Retail Jobs

[www.jobsinthemoney.com](http://www.jobsinthemoney.com) - Jobs in the Money

[www.headhunter.net](http://www.headhunter.net) - Headhunter

[www.collegerecruiter.net](http://www.collegerecruiter.net) - College Recruiter

[www.lucascareers.com](http://www.lucascareers.com) - Lucas Careers



# Upcoming Retiree Seminars



<p align="center"><b>Arizona</b></p> <p><b>Phoenix</b>        Oct. 26, 2002        (602) 353-3033        nmrcrphx@cnrf.navy.mil</p>	<p align="center"><b>Florida</b></p> <p><b>Pensacola</b>        Oct. 19, 2002        POC: Dennis Kerr, 1st Sgt.        (USA Ret.)        (850) 452-5990/1 Ext. 126        nasp-retired-activities@cnet.navy.mil</p>	<p align="center"><b>Minnesota</b></p> <p><b>Minneapolis</b>        Sept. 20-21, 2002        (8 a.m. - 1 p.m.)        Rosemont National Guard        Training Center Auditorium        13865 South Robert Trail        (612) 713-1578        philipson@worldnet.att.net</p>
<p align="center"><b>California</b></p> <p><b>Sunnyvale</b>        April 2003        POC: Robert French        Capt. USN (Ret.)        (650) 603-8047        crandrcfrench@earthlink.net</p>	<p align="center"><b>Hawaii</b></p> <p><b>Pearl Harbor</b>        Nov. 2, 2002 (8 a.m. - Noon)        At the Banyans        915 North Road        Pearl Harbor, HI 96860        (808) 473-4222 Ext. 231        frumkia@pearlharbor.navy.mil</p>	<p align="center"><b>Missouri</b></p> <p><b>St. Louis</b>        Sept. 21, 2002        Call or email for reservation        prior to Sept. 12        POC: Charles Bird, Capt. (USN        Ret.) or Marsh Werner, Lt. Cmdr.        (USN Ret.) (314) 263-6443        rao-stlouis@cnrf.nola.navy.mil</p>
<p align="center"><b>Connecticut</b></p> <p><b>New London/Groton</b>        Oct. 19, 2002        (9 a.m. - 2 p.m.)        At the Dealey Center Theater        Dave Katusha, Lt. Cmdr.        USN (Ret.)        (806) 694-3284</p>	<p align="center"><b>Illinois</b></p> <p><b>Great Lakes</b>        Sept. 14, 2002        POC: Ms. Catherine Gourley        (847) 688-3603 Ext. 118        retired-act.glakes@cnet.navy.mil</p>	<p align="center"><b>New Hampshire/Maine</b></p> <p><b>Portsmouth</b>        "Retired Activity Day"        Aug. 24, 2002 (8 a.m.-2 p.m.)        Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, NH        POC: Ervin Rice Cmdr. (USN        Ret.)        (207) 921-2609        fc-rao@nasb.navy.mil</p>
<p align="center"><b>Florida</b></p> <p><b>Jacksonville</b>        Sept. 28, 2002 (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)        NAS, Bldg 30 (VP-30 HGR)        POC: Coll Robertson, Lt. Cmdr.        (USN Ret.)        (904) 542-266 Ext. 126        raojax@nasjax.navy.mil        crobbiewin@aol.com</p>	<p align="center"><b>Louisiana</b></p> <p><b>New Orleans</b>        Sept. 21, 2002        POC: Bernard Cleary, PHC        (USN Ret.)        (504) 678-2134        raonola@hotmail.com</p>	<p align="center"><b>New York</b></p> <p><b>Rochester</b>        Aug. 10, 2002        POC: Lawrence O'Heron,        CTICS (USN Ret.)        (585) 247-2052        rao-rochesterny@mail.com        www.rao-rochesterny.org</p>



# Upcoming Retiree Seminars



## Pennsylvania

### Willow Grove

Sept. 28, 2002

At the NAS-JRB Willow Grove

POC: Harold Loigman

Capt. (USN Ret.)

(800) 773-1569, (215) 443-6033

rao@cnrf.nola.navy.mil

www.nasjrbwillowgrove.navy.mil

## Virginia

### Little Creek and Norfolk

Sept. 14, 2002

POC: Eugene Crabtree

HCMC (USN Ret.)

(800) 372-5463, (757) 462-7763,

or (757) 322-9113

fsrao@ffsclc.navy.mil

raonorfolk@ffscnorva.navy.mil



## Millington Retiree Seminar

*Photos by  
JO2 Jeffrey Nichols*

*Above: Various retiree and veteran services pass out information to people attending the seminar.*

*Right: Ms. Lisa Williams (rear), Transition Manager for Fleet and Family Support Center at NSA Millington, observes while an attendee completes a seminar survey form during a Retired Activities Seminar held April 27 in Millington, Tenn.*



# Upcoming Reunions

## **USS ARLINGTON (AGMR 2)**

Las Vegas, NV; Oct. 17-20, 2002  
Contact Kenneth Cox  
415 Doris Street  
Quincy, MI 49082  
(517) 639-7376  
ussarlingtonagmr2@yahoo.com

## **USS BAINBRIDGE (DD 246)**

Atlantic City, NJ; Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2002  
Contact Alan Kennett  
8 Lilli Street  
Bayville, NJ  
(732) 269-4396  
afkcpa@cs.com

## **USS BEGOR (APD 127)**

San Antonio, TX; Oct. 17-20, 2002  
Contact Roger Turk  
8325 East 25th Street  
Tucson, AZ 85710  
(520) 885-2079  
73527.1356@compuserve.com

## **USS BERKELEY (DDG 15)**

Charleston, SC; Oct. 17-20, 2002  
Contact Ray Bartlett  
USS Berkeley Association  
P.O. Box 267  
Claremont, CA 91711-0267  
(909) 981-7587  
u.uusberkeley@verizon.net

## **USS BETELGEUSE (AK 28/11)**

Savannah, GA; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact George Rippel  
2615 Cynwyd Avenue  
Broomall, PA 19008  
(610) 356-4101

## **USS BILLFISH (SS 286/SSN 676)**

New London, CT; Oct. 18-20, 2002  
Contact John Martin  
P.O. Box 425  
Frostburg, MD 21532  
(301) 689-5070  
granwilson@juno.com

## **USS BOYD (DD 544)**

San Diego, CA; Oct. 10-12, 2002  
Contact Charles St. John  
P.O. Box 5728  
Beaumont, TX 77726  
(409) 466-2487  
sailorman41@hotmail.com

## **USS BRISTOL (DD 857)**

Pensacola, FL; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact John Watt  
1020 W. Evan Hewes Hwy  
Space 57  
El Centro, CA 92243-9504  
(760) 353-1408  
wattisup@earthlink.net

## **USS BRYCE CANYON (AD 36)**

Caribbean Cruise; Nov. 3-7, 2002  
Contact Jack Bach  
2220 Pier Drive  
Ruskin, FL 33570  
(813) 645-4004  
dabachte@webtv.net

## **USS CABOT (CVL 28)**

Mobile, AL; Oct. 9-13, 2002  
Contact Barrett Frink  
P.O. Box 11  
E. Woodstock, CT 06244  
(860) 928-7437

## **USS CALIFORNIA (BB 44)**

Mobile, AL; Oct. 17-22, 2002  
Contact Harold Bean  
616 West Lafayette  
Staunton, IL 62088  
(618) 635-5638

## **USS CASA GRANDE (LSD 13)**

Virginia Beach, VA; Oct. 27-31, 2002  
Contact Ben Lines  
193 West Shore Road  
New Preston, CT 06777  
(860) 868-0408  
benjunelines@aol.com

## **USS CHARLES J. BADGER (DD 657)**

Charleston, SC; Oct. 13-16, 2002  
Contact Robert Johnson  
8 Thorndike Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
(606) 224-0257  
rajdd657@aol.com

## **USS CHESTER (CA 27)**

Charleston, SC; Oct. 9-13, 2002  
Contact Dean Ramirez  
2058 Manila Bay Lane  
Fort Mill, SC 29708-8524  
(803) 548-0878  
deanram@comporium.net

## **USS CITY OF DALHART (IX 156)**

Pensacola, FL; Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2002  
Contact William Lyon  
629 Cecil Way  
Lexington, KY 40503  
(606) 278-9692  
papalyon1@msn.com

## **USS COCKRILL (DE 398)**

Albany, NY; Oct. 27-30, 2002  
Contact Donald barber  
P.O. Box 533  
Marathon, NY 13803  
(607) 849-3975  
donbarb@worldnet.att.net

## **USS COGSWELL (DD 651)**

Seattle, WA; Oct. 17-19, 2002  
Contact Frank Wille  
P.O. Box 639  
Longview, WA 98632  
(360) 575-5239  
E-mail fowille@lonngibre.com

## **USS COLUMBIA (CL 56)**

Corpus Christi, TX; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Bill Bohne  
248 Worrell Drive  
Springfield, PA 19064  
(610) 543-9073  
usncl56@cs.com

# Upcoming Reunions

## **USS CONYNGHAM (DD 371/DDG 17)**

Philadelphia, PA; Jun. 11-15, 2003  
Contact Len Gordon  
P.O. Box 106  
Milltown, NJ 08850  
(732) 432-0588  
ddggusboat@aol.com

## **USS CORAL SEA (CVA 43)**

Branson, MO; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Cordero  
1803 Goodwin Drive  
Vista, CA 92084-3036  
(760) 724-5388  
mgcordero@nctimes.net  
www.geocities.com/cva43seabreeze/  
index.html

## **USS DAVIS (DD 937)**

Laurel, MD; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Carl Ross  
6410 Sun Country Drive  
New Port Richey, FL 34653  
(727) 847-0247  
cnmross@aol.com

## **USS DECATUR (DD 936/341) (DDG 31)**

Norfolk, VA; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Guy Herrington  
27282 Jenny Hye Lane  
Marydel, MD 21649  
(410) 482-6348  
guy936@hotmail.com

## **USS DECKER (DE 47)**

Myrtle Beach, SC; Oct. 13-17, 2002  
Contact Joe Alexander  
3205 Falcon Lane  
Unit 316  
Wilmington, DE 19808  
(302) 239-2058  
jsphjry@aol.com

## **USS DORTCH (DD 670)**

Branson, MO; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Ed Olson  
4404 Thunderbird Drive  
Danbury, WI 54830  
(715) 259-7195  
noslode@yahoo.com

## **USS DUNCAN (DDR 874)**

Charleston, SC; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Peter Murray  
824 W. Murray Avenue Apt. H  
Visalia, CA 93291-4858  
(559) 622-9500  
ddr874pm@pacbell.net

## **USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69)**

Norfolk, VA; Oct. 14-18, 2002  
Contact LTJG Raymond  
Attn Public Affairs Office  
USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN  
69)  
FPO AE 09532-2830  
(757) 534-1695/(757) 534-1576  
ike25@eisenhower.navy.mil  
www02.clf.navy.mil/eisenhower

## **USS EBERLE (DD 430)**

Williamsburg, VA; Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2002  
Contact Robert McKenzie  
309 Catawba Avenue  
Newfield, NJ 08344  
(856) 697-1587

## **USS EISELE (DE 34)**

Albany, NY; Oct. 6-11, 2002  
Contact Arthur Kelley  
325 Beverly Road  
Douglaston, NY 11363-1124  
(718) 225-7050  
afkdwk@aol.com

## **USS ELDRIDGE (DE 173)**

Portsmouth, VA; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Francis Lipgens  
P.O. Box 332  
Aulander, NC 27805-0332  
(252) 345-1772

## **USS ELMER MONTGOMERY (DE/FF 1082)**

New Orleans, LA; Nov. 1, 2002  
Contact David Chasteen  
1005 E. Ripley  
Brownfield, TX 79316  
(828) 256-6008  
dinamlrs@aol.com

## **USS ELOKOMIN (AO 55)**

St. Augustine, FL; October 2002  
Contact Robert O'Sullivan Jr.  
25 Denny Street  
Dochester, MA 02125  
(617) 288-3755  
theeloman@aol.com

## **USS ETHAN ALLEN (SSBN/SSN 608)**

Gaithersburg, MD; Oct. 4-6, 2002  
Contact Herb Richardson  
8952 Centerway Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20879  
(301) 977-6233  
intrepid@ssbn608.org

## **USS FOOTE (DD 511)**

Nashville, TN; Oct. 3-7, 2002  
Contact Georgia Tuttle  
129 Mechanic Street  
Lebanon, NH 03766  
(603) 448-1071  
Georgia\_Tuttle@valley.net  
www.ussfoote.com

## **USS FORT SNELLING (LSD 30)**

Myrtle Beach, SC; Oct. 3-7, 2002  
Contact "Andy" Anderson  
1113 Trenton Drive SW  
Decatur, AL 35603  
(256) 351-0330  
ceanders@hiwaay.net  
www.aworldwide.com/reunion

## **USS GATLING (DD 671)**

Norfolk, VA; Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2002  
Contact Gene Woodward  
2376 Scotchtown Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-6528  
(757) 721-6028

## **USS GEORGE E. DAVIS (DE 357)**

Mobile, AL; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Rod Hoffmaster  
851 Main Street  
Mohrsville, PA 19541  
(610) 926-4590  
dinamlrs@aol.com

# Upcoming Reunions

## **USS GREENWICH BAY (AVP 41)**

Mystic, CT; Oct. 21-23, 2002  
Contact Neal Bancroft  
308 Warren Street  
Greenville, OH  
(937) 548-1702  
nealilona@wesnet.com

## **USS GRIGGS (APA 110)**

Charleston, SC; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Charles Forshee  
123 Cullen Court  
Lexington, NC 27292  
(336) 357-6476  
ctforshee@lexcominc.net

## **USS GRUNDY (APA 111)**

Charleston, SC; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Daniel Brown  
P.O. Box 282  
Orefield, PA 18069  
(610) 398-1174  
dinamlrs@aol.com

## **USS GYPSY (ARSD 1) MENDER (ARSD 2) SALVAGER (ARSD 3) WINDLASS (ARSD 4)**

Panama City Beach, FL; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Bob McArdle  
906 N. 7th Street  
Bellevue, IA 52031  
(563) 872-5436  
hullbd1@iowatelecom.net

## **USS HALSEY POWELL (DD 686)**

Corpus Christi, TX; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Michael Baker  
109 Dunton Avenue  
Holland, MI 49424  
(616) 392-3547  
E-mail skippermike@wmol.com

## **USS HARRY LEE (APA 10)**

Branson, MO; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Patrick Smith  
506 8th Street  
Saxton, PA 16678  
(814) 635-2847

## **USS HASSAYAMPA (AO 145/TAO 145)**

Wickenburg, AZ; Nov. 15-17, 2002  
Contact Vic Alasio  
64 Grant Avenue  
Cliffside Park, NJ 07010-3107  
(201) 941-9120  
vic@alsio.com

## **USS HERMITAGE (AP 54/P 54)**

Montpelier, OH; Oct. 7-9, 2002  
Contact Frank Calvaerse  
37 Willow Ridge Lane  
Lancaster, NY 14086-3257  
(716) 656-9646  
fac430@aol.com

## **USS HOPEWELL (DD 681)**

Fall River, MA; Oct. 20-23, 2002  
Contact Noel Nichols  
Route 80 Box 881  
Sherburne, NY 13815  
(607) 336-3225  
hopewell\_dd681@hotmail.com

## **USS HUGH PURVIS (DD 709)**

Portland, ME; Sept. 19-22, 2002  
Contact Dennis Dow  
P.O. Box 6021  
Palm Harbor, FL 34684  
(727) 771-7248  
ddow01@aol.com

## **USS HUSE (DE 145)**

Annapolis, MD; Oct. 23-27, 2002  
Contact Dave Perlstein  
7814 LaMirada Drive  
Boca Raton, FL 33433  
(561) 368-7167  
dbp14@hotmail.com

## **USS INDEPENDENCE (CVA 62)**

Branson, MO; Oct. 9-13, 2002  
Contact Denis Bagley  
P.O. Box 7185  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902  
(609) 689-3216  
atlantismarketing@msn.com

## **USS JOHN R. PIERCE (DD 753)**

Atlantic City, NJ; Oct. 22-25, 2002  
Contact Robert Wilno  
P.O. Box 489 Panama Road  
Chatsworth, NJ 08019  
(609) 726-1138  
jrpdd753@aol.com

## **USS JONAS INGRAM (DD 938)**

Jacksonville, FL; Oct. 24-27, 2002  
Contact Pete Pennington  
310 N. Franklin  
Penn Argyl, PA 18072  
(610) 863-3612  
roz310@enter.net

## **USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CV/CVA/CVS 39)**

Myrtle Beach, SC; Oct. 24-27, 2002  
Contact Eugene Carroll  
P.O. Box 131  
Interlaken, NY 14847  
(607) 532-4735  
gcarroll@rochester.rr.com

## **USS LEYTE (CV 32)**

Colorado Springs, CO; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Richard Bolin  
308 S. Maple Street  
Farmer City, IL 61842  
(309) 928-3552  
leyte1956@aol.com

## **USS LCS (L) 3-53**

Virginia Beach, VA; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Thomas O'Brien  
2325 Calvin Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23518  
(757) 583-1070

## **USS LST 307**

Myrtle Beach, SC; Oct. 16-19, 2002  
Contact Buddy Sanford  
P.O. Box 1601  
Walterboro, SC 29488  
(843) 538-7627

# Upcoming Reunions

## **USS LST 889**

Lexington, KY; Oct. 16-19, 2002  
Contact King Richeson  
781 Marcella Street  
Versailles, KY 40383  
(859) 873-8907  
kricheson@peoplepc.com

## **USS LUZON (ARG 2)**

Corpus Christi, TX; Nov. 14-18, 2002  
Contact Charles Mitchell  
32 Patio Road  
Middletown, NY 10941-1619  
(845) 692-5760  
lluzon@frontiernet.net

## **USS LYMAN (DE 302)**

Pigeon Forge, TN; Sept. 30-Oct. 4, 2002  
Contact Harry Pahel  
30366 Gulf Stream Drive  
Canyon Lake, CA 92587  
(909) 244-4978 or  
Charles Vickers (865) 379-8454

## **USS LYMAN K. SWENSON (DD 729)**

Reno, NV; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Don Snider  
1724 Bristol Court  
Bonita, CA 91902-4002  
elroy1@cox.net

## **USS MARSHALL (DD 676)**

Baton Rouge, LA; Oct. 25-27, 2002  
Contact Al Myers  
1245 E. 5th Street  
Long Beach, CA 90805  
(562) 422-3980  
amyers7244@aol.com

## **USS McCAFFERY (DD 860)**

Portsmouth, VA; Oct. 2-5, 2002  
Contact Ed Crowell  
132 Royal Palm Drive  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
(352) 728-6930  
ecro530477@aol.com

## **USS MENARD (APA 201)**

Colorado Springs, CO; Sept. 30-Oct. 7  
Contact Jim DuBose  
707 Winchester Drive  
Fort Collins, CO 80526  
(970) 223-2373  
jim-dubose@msn.com

## **USS MERTZ (DD 691)**

Biloxi, MS; Oct. 10-12, 2002  
Contact James (Shorty) Powell  
126 Jester Road  
Saluda, SC 29138  
(864) 445-5058

## **USS MILLS (DER 383)**

Myrtle Beach, SC; Oct. 13-18, 2002  
Contact Roger Garner  
1880 Hartland Center Road  
Collins, OH 44826-9704  
(419) 668-6880

## **USS MISSISSIPPI (EAG 128)**

San Antonio, TX; Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2002  
Contact Roger Moscone  
757 Emory Street  
Imperial Beach, CA 91932-2231  
(619) 423-5847  
rmoscone@worldnet.att.net

## **USS MONROVIA (APA 31)**

Oklahoma City, OK; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Dick Cushing  
8020 Alhambra Court  
Spring Hill, FL 34606-6604  
(352) 684-1460  
bdcush@atlantic.net

## **USS MONSSEN (DD 798)**

San Diego, CA; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Earl McClure  
2910 150th Street  
Riverside, IA 52327  
(319) 648-2462 n0chn@att.net

## **USS MOUNTRAIL (APA 213)**

Kokomo, IN; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Don DiCoio  
17 Francis Road  
Lincoln Park, NJ 07035  
(973) 696-3725

## **USS NAVARRO (APA 215)**

San Mateo, CA; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Kenneth Bell  
867 Fiesta Drive  
San Mateo, CA 94403  
(650) 341-1097  
Cell (650) 245-4687  
cwobell@aol.com

## **USS OAK HILL (LSD 7)**

Charleston, SC; Oct. 24-27, 2002  
Contact Buddy Oney  
1506 O'Kelly Road  
Rockdale, TX 76567  
(512) 446-2683  
dinamlrs@aol.com

## **USS OMMANEY BAY (CVE 79)**

Portland, OR; Oct. 1-6, 2002  
Contact John Kirkland  
16910 S. W. Monterey  
King City, OR 97224-2030  
(503) 684-6480  
hkirkland8@aol.com

## **USS ORLECK (DD 886)**

Orange, TX; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Robert Orleck  
P.O. Box 213  
Randolph, VT 05060  
(802) 728-9806  
orleckb@innevi.com

## **USS PHAON (ARB 3)**

Norfolk, VA; Oct. 10-12, 2002  
Contact James Brent  
15142 St. Charles Street  
Gulfport, MS 39503  
(228) 832-6014  
j-brent@att.net

## **USS PICKAWAY (APA 222)**

Indianapolis, IN; Oct. 8-12, 2002  
Contact Gene Givan  
735 Auvergne Ave  
Indianapolis, IN 86203-1612  
(317) 357-5203  
genegivan@aol.com

# Upcoming Reunions

## **USS RENSHAW (DD/DDE 499)**

St. Louis, MO; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Ray Smith  
109 Lynbrook Court  
Greenbelt, MD 20770-1618  
(301) 474-6127  
rlsrenshaw@aol.com  
www.destroyers.org/uss-renshaw

## **USS ROCHESTER (CA 124)**

Norfolk, VA; Oct. 11-13, 2002  
Contact Joseph Hill  
4011 Ditty Road  
Cookeville, TN 38506-7663  
(931) 432-4848  
Fax (931) 432-2534  
jochillsr@multipro.com

## **USS ROCKY MOUNT (AGC 3)**

San Diego, CA; Oct. 16-20, 2002  
Contact John Vreeland  
3710 Armstrong Street  
San Diego, CA 92111  
(619) 277-0689

## **USS SALEM (CA 139)**

Branson, MO; Oct. 17-20, 2002  
Contact Bob Daniels  
P.O. Box 493139  
Leesburg, FL 34749  
(352) 315-1397

## **USS SAN MARCOS (LSD 25)**

Biloxi, MS; Oct. 24-27, 2002  
Contact Ray Willis  
2899 Sherwood Drive  
Lima, OH 45805  
(419) 331-4699  
dinamlrs@aol.com

## **USS SANSFIELD (DD/EDD 837)**

Jacksonville, FL; Oct. 2-5, 2002  
Contact Emery Spirko  
2 Marcus Court  
Little River, NJ 08882  
(732) 254-5895  
theretiredman@comcast.net

## **USS SAVAGE (DE/DER 386)**

Galveston, TX; Sept. 29-Oct. 4, 2002  
Contact Raymond Zachgo  
181 Denny Lane  
Winchester, VA  
(540) 662-6470  
raymilzachgo@msn.com

## **USS SCANIA (AKA 40)**

Miami Beach, FL; Oct. 16-20, 2002  
Contact Charlie Roskam  
13301 SW 79 Avenue  
Miami, FL 33156  
(305) 238-8309

## **USS SELFRIDGE (DD 357)**

Laughlin, NV; Oct. 6-9, 2002  
Contact Clifford Chambers  
551 Jefferson Drive  
Lake Charles, LA 70605  
(337) 477-1567

## **USS SELLERS (DDG 11)**

Charleston, SC; Oct. 17-20, 2002  
Contact Hilton Roberts  
634 North Quartz Street  
Gilbert, AZ 85234  
(480) 892-8033  
hilton.i.roberts@boeing.com

## **USS SHIELDS (DD 596)**

San Diego, CA; Oct. 17-20, 2002  
Contact D Burchfield  
415 Smythe Street  
Kosciusko, MS 39090  
(662) 289-4745  
adbshields@aol.com

## **USS SIERRA (AD 18)**

Niagara Falls, NY; Oct. 2-5, 2002  
Contact Frank Savino  
30 Indian Hill Drive  
Rochester, NY 14624  
(585) 889-1056  
fs13034@aol.com

## **USS SMITH (DD 378)**

Midland, TX; Oct. 7-10, 2002  
Contact "ED" Buie  
3402 West Wedgewood  
Midland, TX 79707  
(915) 699-7017

## **USS SOLACE (AH 5)**

San Diego, CA; Oct. 15-17, 2002  
Contact Cecil Blackford  
28301 Burlingame Court  
Tehachapi, CA 93561  
(618) 823-0345

## **USS SPRINGFIELD (CL66/CLG 7/SSN 761)**

Nashville, TN; Aug. 14-18, 2002  
Contact John Adams  
420 Elk Run Road  
Hudson, NH 03051-3542  
(603) 598-2806  
johnmrwillie@aol.com

## **USS TELFAIR (APA 210)**

Orlando, FL; Oct. 4-6, 2002  
Contact John Tonyes  
8460 Tom Costine  
Lakeland, FL 33809  
(863) 859-0878  
flfox1@juno.com

## **USS THOMASTON (LSD 28)**

Great Lakes, IL; Oct. 10-12, 2002  
Contact Gary Jennings  
644 Wilbur Court  
Gurnee, IL 60031  
(847) 688-5353  
garyj@prodigy.net

## **USS TOM GREEN COUNTY (LST 1159)**

Portland, OR; Sept. 20-22, 2002  
Contact Jim Harp  
1731 S. Lake Stickney Drive  
Lynwood, WA 98037  
(425) 745-1010  
jharpj@aol.com

## **USS TRITON (SSRN/SSN 586)**

Norfolk, VA; Oct. 25-27, 2002  
Contact Harry Hampson  
3404 Montgomery Place  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
(757) 463-7875  
harry1523@cox.net

# Upcoming Reunions

## **USS TRUCKEE (AO /TAO 147)**

Baltimore, MD; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Jim King  
101 Cedarcliff Court  
Glen Burnie, MD 21060  
(410) 761-6459  
jkingusnfr@aol.com

## **USS VALLEY FORGE (CV 45/CVA 45/CVS45/ LPH 8/CG 50)**

Las Vegas, NV; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Gordon Wilcher  
1241 N. El Prado Drive  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
(760) 446-2060

## **USS VAMMEN (DE 644)**

Corpus Christi, TX; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Charles Postel  
4217 Montego Drive  
Corpus Christi, TX 78411-5067  
(361) 855-6378  
cpostel@gte.net

## **USS VAN VALKENBURGH (DD 656)**

Scottsdale, AZ; Nov. 7-10, 2002  
Contact Lee Henry  
7337 E. Claremont Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250-5526  
(480) 991-1124  
leelhenry@juno.com

## **USS VESOLE (DD/DDR 878)**

San Diego, CA; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Roy Gorenflo  
32 Charlotte Road  
Fishkill, NY 12524-2707  
(845) 896-2074  
E-mail www.ussvesole.org

## **USS WILLIAM F. SEIVERLING (DE 441)**

San Antonio, TX; Oct. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Henry Jasper Love III  
2084 Hollywood Drive  
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520-8826  
Telefax (228) 467-8538  
lovede441j@aol.com

## **USS WORCESTER (CL 144)**

Daytona Beach, FL; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Phil Harter  
24 Jansen Road  
New Paltz, NY 12561  
(845) 255-2603  
philharter@aol.com

## **USS YANCEY (AKA 93)**

Charleston, SC; Nov. 7-10, 2002  
Contact George Clifton  
4660 West 89th Place  
Hometown, IL 60456  
(708) 425-8531  
clifs@ameritech.net

## **AGC/LCC**

N. Myrtle Beach, SC; Nov. 2-6, 2002  
Contact Bill Kearney  
4 Cedar Pond Drive #3  
Warwick, RI 02886  
(401) 823-9995  
billteton@juno.com  
or wdlsr@bellsouth.net

## **AIRASRON (VS 28)**

Alexandria, VA; Oct. 4-6, 2002  
Contact Harry Lee  
6495 Tayack Place # 102  
Alexandria, VA 22312  
(703) 658-9516  
hlee36@cox.rr.com

## **ASR/ARS ASSOCIATION**

Reno, NV; Oct. 13-17, 2002  
Contact Chuck Micele  
7310 S. Lake Joanna Drive  
Panama City, FL 32404  
(850) 913-8067  
ckmicele@juno.com

## **A-3 SKYWARRIOR ASSOCIATION**

Van Nuys, CA; Oct. 25-28, 2002  
Contact Al Rankin  
1921 Vermont  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
(785) 341-7041  
tanker@a3skywarrior.com  
www.a3skywarrior.com

## **EAST COAST CHIEF PHOTOMATES**

Virginia Beach, VA; Oct. 3-7, 2002  
Contact Tim Timmerman  
1137 Eppington Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454  
(757) 563-2947  
dctimmerman@earthlink.net

## **FLEET AIRWING SEVEN**

Pensacola, FL; Nov. 6-10, 2002  
Contact Allan Fountain  
12884 Santa Piedro Street N.  
Lillian, AL 36549  
(251) 962-4165  
jeanfountain@gulftel.com

## **NAS NEW YORK**

Virginia Beach, VA; Oct. 17-20, 2002  
Contact Chet Atkinson  
P.O. Box 62066  
Virginia Beach, VA 23466  
(757) 495-1338

## **NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND RESERVE PROGRAM**

Phoenix, AZ; Nov. 1-3, 2002  
Contact Al Platt  
4335 Miriam Place  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
(619) 660-0232  
awplatt@cox.net

## **NAVAL NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

Virginia Beach, VA; Oct. 3-7, 2002  
Contact Tim Timmerman  
1137 Eppington Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5809  
(757) 563-2947  
dctimmerman@earthlink.net

## **NAVCOMMSTA ICELAND**

Myrtle Beach, SC; Oct. 10-13, 2002  
Contact Gary Tucker  
P.O. Box 82  
Shepherdstown, WV 25443  
(304) 876-6628  
gtuck6628@earthlink.net

# Upcoming Reunions

## **NET TENDER**

St. Louis, MO; Oct. 8-11, 2002  
Contact Ed Pinson  
5290 S. Valley Street  
Boise, ID 83709-5153  
(208) 362-2659  
epinson@spro.net

## **NMCB 16**

Chino, CA; Oct. 5, 2002  
Contact Chuck Blanding  
9009 Appaloosa Court  
Alta Loma, CA 91737-1457  
or Al Hegney at (909) 627-3461

## **NMCB 22**

Gulfport, MS; Mar. 5-7, 2004  
Contact "Gene" Smith  
9390 Tulane Road  
Orange, TX 77630  
(409) 745-0116  
gene@pnx.com

## **PACIFIC NW NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

Everett, WA; Oct. 5, 2002  
Contact Jerry Craig  
P.O. Box 3302  
Lacey, WA 98509  
(360) 491-2388  
c1316@attbi.com

## **SILVER EAGLES ASSOCIATION**

Gainesville, FL; Oct. 24-27, 2002  
Contact Bob Fife  
187 Spruce Street  
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168  
(386) 423-1659  
bob32168@telocity.com

## **SUBMARINE SCHOOL OFFICERS CLASS 1950**

San Antonio, TX; Nov. 5-7, 2002  
Contact Tom Lambertson  
P.O. Box 86  
Port Aransas, TX 78373  
(361) 749-4598  
tjandfrl@centurytel.net

## **UNITED FRUIT COMPANY LINE/USS ANTIQUA/ ARIEL/MERAK/MIZAR/ TALAMANCA/TARAZED**

Kissimmee, FL; Oct. 10-12, 2002  
Contact Harvey Rathel  
4568 SE 115th Street  
Bellevue, FL 34420  
(352) 245-3179  
ssreunion02@aol.com

## **VA 72**

Ft. Worth, TX; Oct. 11-13, 2002  
Contact Johnny Bittick  
5885 FM 1830  
Argyle, TX 76226  
(940) 241-1182  
johnb40@juno.com

## **VA 174**

### **(VF 174/VF 13/VB 81)**

Jacksonville, FL; Nov. 1-3, 2002  
Contact Bob Kiem  
2836 River Oak Drive  
Orange, Park, FL 32073-6535  
(904) 269-0341  
bobkiem@aol.com

## **VAH 1**

Charleston, SC; Nov. 1-3, 2002  
Contact Rube Kluksdahl  
1678 Dawn Brook Court  
Powhatan, VA 23139-6953  
(804) 598-4379  
rube-k@msn.com

## **VETERANS OF ALL THREE WARS**

San Francisco, CA; Dec. 14-15, 2002  
Contact Christie Morgan  
P.O. Box 386  
Dayton, NV 89403  
(775) 463-2477  
johnfan@earthlink.net

## **VF 53**

Reno, NV; Oct. 27-30, 2002  
Contact Charles Darrow  
1455 Rice Road  
Fallon, NV 89406-9449  
(775) 423-6137  
cbdarr@aiinc.com

## **VP 16**

Orange Park, FL; Oct. 17-19, 2002  
Contact Ralph Lord  
5924 Wending Court  
Jacksonville, FL 32244  
(904) 771-5446  
ann\_lord@bellsouth.net

## **VP 17/VAHM 10**

Colorado Springs, CO; Oct. 4-6, 2002  
Contact Russ Schulz  
55 Birchwood Drive  
Doylestown, PA 18901-2408  
(215) 340-9158  
rks64mrs@aol.com

## **VP 40**

San Diego, CA; Oct. 8-12, 2002  
Contact Robert Foss  
3213 Sandra Circle  
West Des Moines, IA 50266-2029  
(515) 222-0112  
robfoos@aol.com

## **VP 45**

San Diego, CA; Oct. 9-13, 2002  
Contact Tom Golder  
1525 Soplo Road SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87123  
(505) 292-8494  
tvgold@aol.com

## **VP 93**

Chesterfield, MI; Nov. 2, 2002  
Contact Howard Rundell, Jr.  
21773 N. Center Street  
Northville, MI 48167-2113  
(248) 344-1969  
g5av8or@aol.com

# Upcoming Reunions

## VQ ASSOCIATION

Lancaster, PA; Oct. 10-14, 2002  
Contact J.D. Meyer  
3918 Skyview Drive  
Mount Airy, MD 21771  
(301) 607-9339  
jigdogm@aol.com

## VR 771/772/773/774

Monrovia, CA; Oct. 6, 2002  
Contact Paul Scandlyn  
1405 Mountain View Drive  
Forest Grove, OR 97116-3305  
(503) 357-7253  
p.scandlyn@verizon.net

## VT 10

Foster City, CA; Oct. 3-6, 2002  
Contact Don Simonsen  
4454 Hummel Drive  
Orcutt, CA 93455  
(805) 937-6204

## 301ST SEABEES

Pensacola, FL; Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2002  
Contact William Lyon  
629 Cecil Way  
Lexington, KY 40503  
(859) 278-9692  
papalyon1@msn.com

*Due to space constraints and the overwhelming number of reunions, we are listing columns for reunion name(s), date(s) and contact numbers for the September reunions.*

USS ABSD 1, Sept. 15-18, (801) 374-6126  
USS Albert W. Grant (DD 649), Sept. 25-27, (386) 673-0099  
USS Antietam (CV/CVA/CVS 36/CG 54), Sept. 26-29,  
(703) 768-6419  
USS Appalachian (AGC1), Oct 2, (317) 898-8173  
USS Attu (CVE 102), Sept. 17-22, (337) 762-4656  
USS Bangust (DE-739), Sept 4-8, (727) 347-6630  
USS Barton (DD 722), Sept. 11-15, (419) 433-2778  
USS Basilone (DDE/DD 824), Sept. 23-29, (530) 621-3914  
USS Becuna (SS 319), Sept. 22-24, (860) 889-2846  
USS Belleau Wood (CVL 24), Sept. 18-21, (727) 848-5409  
USS Birmingham (CL 62), Sept. 11-15, (618) 826-4432  
USS Bollinger (APA 234), Sept. 24-26, (936) 642-1704  
USS Calhoun County (LST 519) Sept 24 – 26, (513) 521-8716  
USS Calvert (APA 32), Sept. 11-15, (507) 789-6344  
USS Charles Lawrence (DE 53/APD 37), Sept. 10-13,  
(301) 620-4045

USS Clark (DD 361), Sept. 12-15, (937) 848-7980  
USS Cleveland (LPD-7), Sept 26-29, (972) 723-3839  
USS Columbus (CA 74/CG 12/SSN 762), Sept. 18-21,  
(540) 427-1090  
USS Cone (DD 866), Sept. 18-21, (616) 866-2012  
USS Consolation (AH 15), Sept. 19-22, (507) 451-4294  
USS Constant (MSO-427), Aug 31-Sept 2, (303) 699-4896  
USS Cotton (DD 669), Sept. 18-22, (404) 373-0120  
USS Curtiss (AV-4), Sept 4-7, (952) 891-5954  
USS Davison (DD 618/DMS 37), Sept. 10-15, (619) 444-5384  
USS DeHaven (DD 727), Sept. 24-29, (405) 969-2995  
USS Denver (CL-58), Sept 26-29, (618) 466-2418  
USS Des Moines(CA-134), Aug 2-4, (513) 481-1873  
USS Edison (DD 439), Sept. 22-24, (413) 596-3752  
USS Emory S. Land (AS 39), Sept. 20-22, (757) 583-0284  
USS Ernest G. Small (DD/DDR-838), Sept 26-29,  
(559) 275-0433  
USS Everett F. Larson (DD/DDR 830), Sept. 30-Oct. 4,  
(937) 667-9208  
USS Fargo (CL-106), Sept 12-15, (757) 499-5076  
USS Fulton (AS-11), Sept 4-8, (925) 513-9275  
USS George Clymer (APA 27), Sept. 19-22, (734) 676-7671  
USS Graffias (AF 29), Sept. 19-22, (847) 299-0248  
USS Greenfish (SS-351), Sept 16-22, (417) 532-9451  
USS Hale (DD 642), Sept. 15-18, (856) 456-5227  
USS Healy (DD 672), Sept. 12-15, (920) 733-4596  
USS Henley (DD-762), Sept 12-14, (518) 582-5516  
USS Heywood (APA-6), Sept 19-23, (513) 474-9324  
USS Hollandia (CVE 97), Sept. 17-19, (314) 458-6851  
USS Honolulu (CL-48/SSN-718), Sept 5-8, (949) 644-6105  
USS Hornet (CV 8/12/CVA 12/CVS 12), Sept. 11-15,  
(941) 408-9778  
USS Hyman (DD 732), Sept. 1-8, (440) 439-1885  
USS Ingersoll (DD 652/990), Sept. 19-22, (619) 424-5940  
USS Jamestown (AGP 3), Sept. 25-28, (850) 455-3726  
USS James K. Polk (SSBN/SSN-645), July 25-28,  
(781) 237-3004  
USS Joseph Strauss (DDG 16), Sept. 19-22, (716) 985-4273  
USS Jupiter (AVS-8), Sept 8-12, (770) 496-0812  
USS Kleinsmith (APD 134), Sept. 26-29, (914) 591-0260  
USS LaPorte (APA 151), Sept. 26-28, (607) 722-1342  
USS LCS (L) 1-130, Sept. 18-21, (801) 295-0909  
USS Lewis Hancock (DD673), Sept 18-22, (724) 834-0370  
USS LST (246), Sept. 18-22, (757) 426-9283  
USS LST (372) Sept 12-15, (217) 678- 8145  
USS Marcus Island (CVE-77), Sept 26-29, (619) 264-3575  
USS Maryland (BB 46), Sept. 25-29, (504) 885-5334  
USS Mellette (APA 156), Sept. 11-15, (309) 476-8717  
USS Memphis (CL 13), Sept. 26-28, (276) 623-1626  
USS Miami (CL 89), Sept. 15-22, (410) 641-8010  
USS Missouri (BB-63), Aug 26-Sept 4, (803) 494-2111  
USS Mount Mckinley (AGC 7), Sept. 11-15, (509) 534-3649  
USS Mugford (DD 389), Sept. 17-22, (337) 762-4656

# Upcoming Reunions

USS Nassau (CVE 16), Sept. 18-21, (909) 795-6070  
USS Natrona (APA-214), Sept 23-27, (410) 838-6890  
USS Nechess (AO 47), Sept. 5-8, (330) 633-3329  
USS New Mexico (BB 40), Sept. 26-29, (636) 949-9413  
USS Otus (AS/ARG-20), Sept 5-6, (520) 325-9874  
USS Phoenix (CL-46), Aug 18-24, (360) 295-3811  
USS Pictor (AF 54), Sept. 19-21, (307) 382-2293  
USS Pollux (AKS-2/AKS-4), Sept 25-29, (850) 994-0416  
USS Prevail (AGS20/AM107), Sept 18-20, (609) 926-3410  
USS Princeton (CVL23) Aug 21-25, (724) 222-7289  
USS Pursuit (AGS 17/AM 108), Sept. 26-28, (302) 875-8095  
USS Ranier (AE5), Sept 26-28, (620) 365-2535  
USS Randall (APA 224), Sept. 15-19, (732) 367-6472  
USS Rigel (AF-58/AR-11), Sept 5-8, (315) 344-7390  
USS Russell (DD414/DDG-59) Sept 18-22, (619) 582-1337  
USS San Diego (CLAA 53), Sept. 5-9, (856) 931-0959  
USS San Francisco (CA-38) Sept 17-21, (209) 532-4719  
USS Schenck (DD 159) / USS Leary (DD 158), Sept. 18-22,  
(703) 356-6173  
USS Scorpion (SS 278/SSN 589) / USS George Washington  
(SSBN 598), Sept. 20, (360) 396-4111  
USS Sepulga (AO 20), Sept. 16-18, (409) 722-0087  
USS Sevier (APA-233), Sept 26-28, (860) 749-3577  
USS Shelby (APA-105), Sept 26-29, (770) 822-9262  
USS Shelton (DD 790/DE 407), Sept. 19-21, (618) 475-3248  
USS Springfield (CL66/CLG-7/SSN-761), Aug 14-18,  
(603) 598-2806  
USS Strong (DD 467/758), Sept. 10-15, (618) 262-8964  
USS Sylvania (AKA-44/AFS-2), Set 20-22, (517) 663-4777  
USS Texas (BB-35/CGN-39), Sept 27-30, (973) 893-1234  
USS Thomas (DE-102), Sept 26-28, (859) 596-0541  
USS Thomas Jefferson (APA-30), Sept 20-22, (757) 587-7261  
USS Topeka (CLG-8), Aug 21-25, (619) 224-8928  
USS Trathen (DD 530), Sept. 12-14, (540) 459-7272  
USS Trenton (CL-11), Sept 11-15, (651) 633-7868  
USS Tucson (CL 98), Sept. 23-25, (609) 208-9938  
USS Turner (DD/DDR 834), Sept. 11-15, (717) 764-3834  
USS Vincennes (CL-64) Sept 13-16, (516) 437-0524  
USS Waldron (DD 699), Aug. 28- Sept. 1, (425) 391-4343  
USS WASP (CV7) Sept 12-15, (901) 358-7038  
USS Wayne (APA 54), Sept. 16-20, (603) 399-7256  
USS Wichita (CA 45) / Tuscaloosa (CA 37), Sept. 29-Oct. 5,  
(205) 553-1550  
USS Wiltsie (DD 716), Sept. 18-21, (775) 827-8163  
USS Winooski (AO-38), Sept 12-15, (412) 824-0262  
USS Zeilin (APA-3), Sept 18-21, (909) 795-5318

4th Special Seabee, Aug 29-Sept 1, (920) 684-8602  
Asheville / Tacoma Class Patrol Gunboats (PG), Aug 21-25,  
(757)479-2261  
C. P. Cecil Association, Sept. 22-29, (225) 293-9539  
Explosive Ordnance Disposal Association, Sept. 5-8,  
(904) 747-1834

MCB 7, Sept. 19-22, (603) 279-4655  
Midshipman's School Northwestern, Aug. 30-Sept. 3,  
(262) 367-5643  
NAS Sangley Point PI 60-63, Sept 12-19, (918) 355-6064  
NAS Whidbey Island, Sept. 7, (360) 257-6289  
Naval Reserve Center Altoona, PA, Sept 28, (814) 943-1385  
Navy Game Wardens of Vietnam Aug 1-4, (770) 641-8065  
Nuclear Weapons Association, Sept. 24-29, (505) 527-1162  
Public Affairs Alumni Association, Sept. 27-29, (540) 338-5353  
SIMA / NRF, Sept. 28, (215) 443-0786  
Tailhook Convention, Sept 5-7, (800) 322-4665  
Tripoli Association, Sept. 18-22, (409) 722-1468  
LST-246, Sept 18-22, (757) 426-9283  
LST-1033, Sept 2-6, (815) 469-4311  
VA-126, Sept 5-7, (808) 328-8192  
VF24 Fighting Renegades, Sept 5-7, (703) 250-4339  
VP 10, Sept. 26-29, (207) 772-0555  
VP 44/VPB 204/VPB 44/204/VPMS 4, Sept. 19-22,  
(207) 566-5765  
VP-46 (1952-55), Sept 11-14, (512) 894-4355  
VP 772/17, Sept 19-22, (703) 533-1040  
VR 24, Sept. 26-29, (949) 462-3696  
WW II Scouting Squadrons Association, Sept. 27-30,  
(361) 790-5419

## New Retired Operations staff member

The Navy Retired Operations Section welcomes the new Retired Activities Program (RAO) Program Manager **ASCM(AW/SW) Michael Stambaugh**. Master Chief Stambaugh comes to us from USS Nimitz. He is assigned to PERS-62 and can be reached at **800-255-8950 ext. 2309** or [p62r@persnet.navy.mil](mailto:p62r@persnet.navy.mil).

## VA Agent Orange information

For information on Agent Orange, go the Veterans Administration's website (<http://www.va.gov/vbs/health/>), then scroll down to VHA Programs. After clicking on this site, scroll down and you will see Agent Orange. Also, there is a recently established toll-free help line for Agent Orange at **800-749-8387**.

## Social Security information for survivors

Widow(er)s may be eligible to receive Social Security Benefits at age 60. If you are interested in obtaining more information on the subject please contact your nearest Social Security Administration Office or call **800-772-1213**.



## Ready Reference Phone Numbers

Air Force Retired Affairs	<b>(800) 531-7502</b>	Navy Lodge Reservation Service	<b>(800) 628-9466</b>
Arlington National Cemetery	<b>(703) 695-3250</b> or <b>(703) 695-3255</b>	Navy Retired Activities Office	<b>(800) 255-8950</b>
Army Retired Affairs	<b>(800) 336-4909</b>	Navy Uniform Shop	<b>(800) 368-4088</b>
Awards Information (Washington, D.C.)	<b>(202) 685-1770</b>	Reserve Component SBP Section (Code 416)	<b>(800) 535-2699</b>
Coast Guard Retired Affairs	<b>(800) 772-8724</b>	Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)	<b>(800) 419-1473</b>
DEERS Verification	<b>(800) 538-9552</b>	Shift Colors Magazine	<b>(901) 874-3154</b>
Defense Finance and Accounting Service Cleveland, Active Duty	<b>(800) 346-3374</b>	Social Security Administration (SSA)	<b>(800) 772-1213</b>
DFAS Cleveland, Retired Pay Customer Service	<b>(800) 321-1080</b>	Ships Historian (Washington, D.C.)	<b>(202) 433-3643</b>
DFAS Denver, Annuity Section	<b>(800) 435-3396</b>	TRICARE Headquarters	<b>(303) 676-3526</b>
Dept. of Justice Radiation Compensation Program	<b>(800) 729-7327</b>	TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program	<b>(877) 363-6337</b>
I.D. Cards, Benefits and Eligibility	<b>(800) 443-9297</b> or <b>(901) 874-3360</b>	Armed Forces Retirement Home (Gulfport, Mississippi)	<b>(800) 332-3527</b>
Internal Revenue Service	<b>(800) 829-1040</b>	U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home	<b>(800) 422-9988</b>
Marine Corps Retired Affairs	<b>(800) 336-4649</b>	VA National Service Life Insurance (NSLI)	<b>(800) 669-8477</b>
National Personnel Records Center	<b>(314) 538-2050</b>	VA Regional Office	<b>(800) 827-1000</b>
Naval Reserve Personnel Center (Records)	<b>(866) 250-4778</b>	VA Service Department Burial Benefits	<b>(800) 697-6947</b>
Navy Worldwide Locator	<b>(901) 874-3388</b>	Veteran's Group Life Insurance (VGLI)	<b>(800) 419-1473</b>

## DFAS: DON'T FORGET ADDRESS SWITCH

### **If I have direct deposit, why do I need to contact DFAS to update my address?**

Even when your pay is sent directly to your bank, it is important to notify the DFAS Cleveland Center to keep your correspondence address updated. This address is used to mail account statements, distributions from pensions, annuities, retirement or profit-sharing plans, IRAs, insurance contracts, Form 1099R, and other correspondence from the servicing center. DFAS also manages the address list used to send your copy of *Shift Colors* magazine.

### **To whom should retirees and annuitants address inquiries regarding their accounts?**

To change your address or ask questions regarding your pay, contact:

DFAS Cleveland Center  
Retired Pay Operations  
PO Box 99191  
Cleveland, OH 44199-1126  
**800-321-1080** or **(216) 522-5955**

### **Who is responsible for address change notifications?**

It is the retiree's and annuitant's responsibility to notify the appropriate servicing center whenever their address changes.

### **To whom should survivors report the death of a retiree?**

Survivors should report retiree deaths to the DFAS Cleveland Center's casualty office at **800-269-5170**. Faxes can be sent to the office at **800-469-6559**.

Annuitants should notify DFAS Denver Center when they have a change of address or questions regarding their Survivor Benefit Plan or Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan:

DFAS-DE/FRB  
6760 East Irvington Place  
Denver, CO 80279-6000  
**800-435-3396** or **(303) 676-6552**  
Fax: 800-982-8459  
E-mail: DFAS-DE-FRB@dfas.mil

NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND  
SHIFT COLORS (PERS-05)  
5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE  
MILLINGTON, TN 38055-0500